



Lamoine Board of Selectmen

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Minutes of December 4, 2008

Chair Jo Cooper called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM

Present were: Selectmen Richard Fennelly Jr., S. Josephine Cooper, Brett Jones, Cynthia Donaldson; Administrative Assistant Stu Marckoon, Deputy CEO Michael Jordan, Parks Commission chair Kerry Galeaz, and Kermit Theall

The meeting was telecast and recorded by Lamoine Cable TV Channel 7.

Agenda Review – The Board agreed to move an addendum item from the Parks Commission up to the top of the agenda.

Parks Commission – Chair Kerry Galeaz said they tried to run an ice-fishing derby and family fun day a couple of years ago, but they were not organized. He said last year there was no ice. He said William Fennelly brought up the item again this year, and they have the people to do it. He said they've set February 14, 2009 as the date, which is the same date as the free fishing day. He said the event would be co-sponsored by the Frenchman Bay Riders snowmobile club. He said each organization would put up \$100 in startup costs, and the proceeds would be split. He said instead of opening a special checking account, it would be easiest to process any revenues and expenses through the town.

Mr. Galeaz said they plan to clear an area for skating, and maybe have some opportunities for ATVs. He said it should be fun. Cynthia asked if there was a storm date. Mr. Galeaz said he didn't know, but usually there is ice in February. A short discussion followed.

Jo said she favored trying it. Richard said it would be perfect to coincide with the free fishing day. Mr. Galeaz said he'd heard the pond had been stocked with trout again this year. A short discussion followed – Richard said he would try to confirm that. Jo said it was OK to run the revenues and expenses through the town system. There was no objection from the board.

Minutes – November 20, 2008 – Richard said he'd picked up some typos and there were a couple of corrections he'd outlined on pages 4 and 7. Jo moved to approve the minutes with corrections. Richard 2nd. **Vote in favor was 4-0.**

Cynthia asked if the junkyard inspections had been completed. Stu said he had not seen a written report.

Expenditure Warrant 12 – Stu said the warrant had grown from the packet version to \$258,174.57. He said approximately \$240,000 was for school expenses. Richard asked about the different levels of pay for firefighters. Stu said it depends on their level of participation. Cynthia asked about lien discharges. Stu said it costs \$13 to file the lien at the registry of deeds, and another \$13 to discharge it. Brett asked about who pays when there is a mortgage on the property. Stu said generally a mortgage holder will pay. There was a discussion about when mortgages are sold to other companies. Selectmen signed the warrant.

Cash & Budget Report – Richard noted the reduction in the obligation of the veterans' memorial committee. Stu noted a good sized contribution had come in from RF Jordan. There was a discussion about interest income, harbor funds, and revenues and the economy in general.

Lien Foreclosures – Stu reported five liens from 2006/07 have not yet been paid in full. He said he's not heard from four of the property owners.

Appointment of Alternate Member – Budget Committee – Stu reported there was only one applicant. Jo moved to appoint Kathleen DeFusco. Richard 2nd. **Vote in favor was 4-0.** A brief discussion about advertising for openings followed.

Cable TV Equipment Recommendation – Jo said the money's in the CTV account, and if the CTV Committee feels this is what they want to do, she's in favor. Brett explained the device the committee wants – it's a program scheduler. Jo said she is interested in providing audio on the CTV Channel from Maine Airs – a service that reads the news for the blind. A brief discussion followed. Richard noted the unit requested by the CTV committee has no incremental cost each year. The Board had no objection to the proposed purchases. It was noted that the money for funding this came from Cable TV subscribers and not taxpayers.

School Lot Delineation – Brett said he needs to come up with a time that works with Bob Pulver, Cynthia, Chief Smith and himself. He gave a brief synopsis of the school committee meeting on Monday. He said there are potential liability issues with the school's portable classroom being located on town property.

Consolidation Vote – Stu reported 4 absentee ballots have been cast thus far for the December 9, 2008 vote. Richard said he wondered what the general feeling is. There was a discussion about how to properly publicize the vote.

Bangor Hydro Permits – Richard said he focused on the last paragraph in the Bangor Hydro letter saying that Maine Municipal Association has products that would meet the BHE requirements. Stu said he could ask MMA. Richard said we probably should. A short discussion followed.

Request from Robert Sharkey – Jo said she would listen if others have any thoughts on an e-mailed request from Mr. Sharkey in regard to the index page on the town's website for the Administrative Assistant. She said she would just as soon write a brief letter to Mr. Sharkey thanking him for his concerns. She said the Board doesn't have time to deal with Mr. Sharkey's apparent personal vendetta. Richard said the matter was dealt with in the Administrative Assistant's job description. Jo said Mr. Sharkey was incorrect in one assertion in his message, and she didn't like the language requesting that the Selectmen "put an employee in his place". She said she would write a brief letter.

Small Animal Clinic Contract – Jo moved to sign the annual contract with the Small Animal Clinic for stray animals. Richard 2nd. **Vote in favor was 4-0.** Stu noted the price has increased a bit.

Grant – Jo said she was told about a grant that might be of interest to the Conservation Commission and has passed that information along to them.

Paving – Jo said she got a call regarding the uneven surface between Birchlawn Drive and the driveway entrances after the paving project last summer. Stu said he spoke with Jay Fowler's crew earlier today and they would get to it in the next few days. He said Walker Road has been completed.

Other – Brett asked if the Conservation Commission has any specific mandate. Jo said the Commission is advisory to the Selectmen, and is an educational resource on conservation issues. She said the formation grew out of concerns about the aquifer. She said initially the Commission seemed overwhelmed by the amount of work to be done. She said the Commission seems pretty focused right now, and they've been able to obtain a grant for the GET WET program.

Brett said the Commission seems pretty autonomous and it might be time to meet with them. A short discussion followed. Brett said an open space inventory of town prompted his question. Jo suggested inviting them to a future meeting. Stu said he would give the meeting dates to Fred Stocking, and have him pick a date. Discussion followed on a grant possibility.

Brett said it might be helpful to the Planning Board to have GIS mapping capability. He explained briefly how it worked, and said the software is pretty expensive. He said it might be convenient for several towns to have it, and

maybe 3-towns, i.e. Hancock, Lamoine and Trenton could cooperate. Richard asked about the degree of accuracy on GIS mapping and GPS units. A discussion followed on the possibilities. Richard noted that he'd seen what appeared to be students from a school mapping out vernal pools, and asked if any town entity was participating in that. A discussion about property rights followed.

Stu said the town does not employ the staff to perform GIS work. Brett said the Conservation Commission might find GIS useful. A short discussion followed about computer access.

Stu noted that Assistant Clerk/Assistant Tax Collector Diane Carter has successfully completed her probationary employment as of today.

Next Meeting – Jo outlined the meeting schedule as follows:

- a. December 18, 2008
- b. January 2009 – Meet on 1/8/09, 1/22/09
- c. February 2009 – Meet on 2/5/09, 2/19/09
- d. March 2009 – Meet on 3/5/09, 3/19/09
- e. April 3, 2009
- f. Annual Town Meeting – April 7 & 8 2009
- g. April 17, 2009

Budget Workshop – Stu noted the budget, with the exception of the Planning Board, is nearly complete. He said the next meeting is December 15, 2008.

Incident with Neil Salsbury- Brett asked if Mr. Salsbury should be sent a letter in regard to a recent appearance at the town hall to pay a tax lien, reminding him of the parameters of a vexation order. A short discussion followed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Stu Marckoon, Adm. Asst.